2: Gourou--183-185 N-5 (1939 ?) 1945 Laotians-1-8
116, 162

[HD: The Laotian] population is composed of varied elements, in which the Laotians, who are a T'ai people, and the Kha--the name given by the Laotians to the Indonesian populations-predominate. (1) It is dispersed in hamlets, each mustering a few dwellings and

1. L'Annuaire Statistique de l'Indochine (Hanoi, Ideo, 1937) gives 665,000 T'ai and 247,000 Indonesians.

a few dozen inhabitants. The urban population is no more numerous in Laos than in the rest of Indochina: it represents only 5% of the whole, 50,000 inhabitants out of 1,000,000 and this only by counting as towns agglomeration that certainly contain more agriculturalists than townsmen. (2)

2. According to the official documents, the "towns" of Laos were as follows in 1936:

Province	Town	Inhabitants
Fifth military district	Phong Saly	1,602
	Bountay	413
	Outay	636

2: Gourou--183-185 N-5 (1939 ?) 1945 Laotians-2
116, 162

Haut Mékhong (Upper Mekong).	Ban Houei Sai	335	
Luang Prabang.....	Luang Prabang	6,040	
	Pak Loy	1,139	
	Sayaboury	289	
	Pak Leng	394	
	Xieng Ngeun	232	
	Moung Ngoi	604	
	Hong Sa	628	
	Muong Pak Tha	385	
	Muong Pak Beng	505	
	Muong Pak Ou	235	
	Muong Say	427	[183 A]
Houa Phan.....	Sam Neua	2,580	
Tranh Ninh.....	Xieng Khouang	1,397	
	Muong Khan	1,241	(?)
	Muong Moc	322	
	Lat Boua	289	
Vien Chan.....	Vien Chan	15,878	
	Ban Keun	5,170	(?)
	Muong May	950	

2: Gourou--183-185 N-5 (1939 ?) 1945 Laotians-3
116, 162

	Vang Vieng	865
Cammon.....	Thakhek	3,394
	Hinboun	384
	Mahaxay	788
	Khamkeut	286
	Mines du N. Patène (mines of North Patène)	1,900
Savannakhet.....	Savannakhet	4,085
	Keng Kok	1,711
	Song Khonet	1,216
	Dong Hène	476
	Tchè Pone	429
	Muong Phine	322
	Kong Mong	555
	Kong Samoi	105
Saravane.....	Saravane	577
Bassac.....	Paksé	3,414

This enumeration is incomplete, but, as far as it goes, gives a correct idea of the small size of the "towns" of Laos. [184]

2: Gourou--183-185 N-5 (1939 ?) 1945 Laotians-4
116, 162

We do not possess sufficiently detailed information to be able to attempt a geographical description of the population distribution in Laos, that is to say, a description based on natural regions and not on administrative divisions. But the documents we have been able to assemble, thanks to the kindness of the Governor-General of Indochina, do permit a slightly closer approach to reality than has been achieved up to now. (1)

1. Detail of the demographic information we have been able to collect concerning Laos:

Province	Administrative District	Inhabitants	Sq. Km.	Inhabitants (per sq. km.)
Fifth military District...	Muong Phong Saly	23, 855	8, 500	2. 8
	Bountay	3, 911	2, 000	1. 9
	Ouneua	3, 255	2, 100	1. 5
	Outay	3, 110	1, 557	2. 0
Haut Mékhong	.....	30, 774	12, 900	2. 3
Luang Prabang..	Luang Prabang	18, 254	1, 110	16. 0
	Pak Lay	34, 025	9, 309	3. 6

	Sayaboury	22,735	6,975	3.2
	Pak Seng	17,629	6,570	2.6
	Xieng Ngeun	17,768	6,317	2.8
	Moung Ngoi	16,660	5,603	3.0
	Hong Sa	17,523	4,075	4.3
	Pak Tha	13,081	3,717	3.5
	Pak Beng	8,198	2,039	4.0
	Pak Ou	9,347	1,912	4.9
	Moung Say	19,970	8,632	2.3
Houa Phan...	Sam Neua	9,338	1,970	4.7
	Muong Xoi	4,640	1,580	2.9
	Xieng Kho	22,901	3,500	6.5
	Muong Sone	4,898	3,900	1.2
	Houa Muong	6,637	4,080	1.8
	Sam Teu	8,003	4,970	1.6
Tran Ninh...	Muong Khoune	21,969	13,000	1.6
	Muong Kham	18,675	9,500	2.0
	Muong Moc	8,177	6,000	1.3
	Muong Pek	12,322	8,500	1.4 [184 a]
Cammon.....		105,000	26,400	3.9

Vien Chan....	Muong de Vien Chan (without the town)	54,508	8,160	6.8
	Muong Tourakhom	25,520	4,485	5.6
	Muong Borikhane	14,284	5,601	2.5
	Muong Vang Vieng	9,108	3,372	2.6
Savannakhet..	Muong de Savannakhet.....	44,700	8,000	5.5
	Muong Kong Kok	31,584	4,000	7.7
	Muong Song Kone	30,637	8,000	3.8
	Muong Dong Hène	21,933	4,000	5.4
	Muong Tché Pone	18,463	8,000	2.3
	Muong Phine	8,929	8,000	1.1
	Muong Nong and Samoi	5,661	4,000	1.6
Saravane....	Muong de Saravane	24,108	3,500	6.9
	Muong de Wapikhamthong.....	29,143	3,000	9.7
	Kong de Ta Hoi	9,780	2,400	4.0
	Kong Lao Ngam	2,678	400	6.9
	Kong Tha Teng	4,800	800	6.0
	Kong Laman	7,223	1,100	6.6

	Tam Pril	6,206	2,500	2.5
Bassac.....	Delegation d'Attopeu	42,000	12,500	3.4
	Remainder of the Province.....	115,000	14,000	8.2

We have modified the figures given us for the Kong of Lao Ngam (province of Saravane): the documents of the province assigned to this district (circonscription) a population of 10,678 inhabitants, or 26 per sq. km., --an exceptional density in Laos. The map (sheet No. 134) in the regular 1:100,000 series of the Service Géographique de l'Indochine does not indicate this remarkable population concentration. The Kong of Lao Ngam, situated on the northern slope of the Boloven plateau, is composed of savanna-forest, broken by clearing in which wet-field rice is cultivated. But the inhabitants do not appear more numerous here than in the plains of Saravane. [185]

High densities are not found anywhere in Laos: the most populous district (circonscription) is the Koueng of Luang Prabang, which, exclusive of the town of Luang Prabang itself, has 16 inhabitants per sq. km. over an area of 1,110 sq. km. in its environs.

True, we must remember that our study is based on areas too large to permit us to notice small districts with high densities (for example, the most densely populated part of the province of Vien Chan, the Muong of Vien Chan, has 54,500 inhabitants in an area of 8,160 sq. km., or nearly 7 per sq. km.; we need to be able to reduce the data to elements of small territorial extent); nevertheless, we may be sure that even in the plains Laos has no densities approaching 100 inhabitants per sq. km. The general average for Laos (4.3 inhabitants per sq. km.) is not made up of excessively disparate elements.

There are vast stretches where the density falls below 2 inhabitants per sq. km., chiefly in the north, in the part of Laos that belongs to the mountains between the Red River and the Mekong; 68,000 sq. km. have this sparse population, of which 56,000 are in Tran Ninh, Hous Phan and Phong Saly. Tran Ninh is particularly sparsely populated. In southern Laos, the district (circonscription) of Muong Phine is the emptiest area (8,929 inhabitants for 8,000 sq. km.). It belongs to the sparsely populated regions of the Annam Chain.

10: d'Orleans--302 T-3 (1891-92) 1894 Laos
116, 101, 162, 563

"The inhabitants [LSS: of Luang Prabang] are Kas, Laotians, Lus and Meos, while there are also a few Chinese traders and shopkeepers. The Kas, divided into seven tribes, according to the information obtained by Holt, Hallett and Neis, are four times more numerous than the Laotians."

10: d'Orleans--312-313 T-3 (1891-92) 1894 Laos
116, 162, 589, 793

"All the members of the religious corporation reside in the buildings near the pagodas, and they comprise nearly a tenth of the population, as a portion of the [313] body is constantly shifting. Moreover, women dressed in white, generally old maids or widows, also have their heads shaved and become female priests, their special duty being to make the collections at the pagodas."

23: Franck--330-331 T-2 (1924) 1926 Laotians
116, 162

"Of the aboriginal tribes driven into the mountains by the Tai invasion of nearly two thousand years ago, it is estimated that there are still a hundred thousand of these Kha [331] and other more or less indigenous stock. Thus there is a great mixture of races under King Sisavang Vong Somdet Prah, besides the 'black paunch' and 'white paunch' Laosians of his own race. At Muongsing, chief town of the military territory, administered by Luang Prabang, in a far corner of Laos, a French official counted thirty-two races, each in its own costumes and with its own customs, at the weekly market day."

25: Brodrick--90 [2] S-3 (1939) 1948 Laotians
116, 162, 361, 175.63

"Only ten Europeans lived in Houaphan.

Xieng-Khouang, about three thousand six hundred feet up, lies, all the same, in a valley surrounded with high hills. There is a new European quarter, by no means exclusively inhabited by Europeans, and the pagodas are among the most archaically planned of all the Laos land. (2)

2. Tran-ninh was for long ruled by independent chieftains until the province was annexed in 1830 by the King of Vientiane who, six years later, had to cede the territory to the Annamese Emperor. It was the French who added the province to the realm of Luang-Prabang."

25: Brodrick--91 [2] S-3 (1939) 1948 Laotians
116, 142, 162, 291, 361

"The Laotians who, in their land, keep to the river valleys and avoid the hills and plateaux, are fairly easy to recognize, since there is no confusing them with the strangely garbed men and women of the northern hills or with the semi-savage 'Khas' of the mountains. The Laotians are, as a rule, of more sturdy build than any Annamese, and compared with the stolid and serious-looking Cambodians, the men of the Laos are gay and smiling. Their dress is quite unlike that of the Cambodians. Only the saffron-clad monks will be familiar if you come up from the south. The girls, especially, love bright colours. The usual costume is a skirt reaching to the ankles and often, if not generally, of light tint, puce, mauve, yellow or red. At the waist and the hem is a band of polychrome embroidery, green and white, purple and yellow or green, red and yellow. The women wear usually a white shift, sleeveless and cut rather low back and front, but all are girt about with a long, generally, yellow scarf, draped either as a bandolier with a long end hanging down one side or slung as a gigantic necklace like an Hawaian garland."

25: Brodrick--102-103 S-3 (1939) 1948 Laotians-1-2
116, 162, 631

"The Kingdom of Luang-Prabang, despite its meagre population, does extend over what, in almost any other part of the world, would be a great area. In addition to the province of Luang-Prabang itself, and that of Houaphan, . . . there is northern Phong-Saly marching with Chinese Yünnan and the jumbled mountains of western Tongking. In all this Phong-Saly there are no more than fifty Europeans and few enough Laotians. . . . Phong-Saly is a region of a hundred peoples, many of whom burn the vegetation to sow their hardy crops. A region of a hundred peoples, immigrants from the north like the Thais themselves, of the tall and graceful Lu, of the Phu Noi, of the Meo, broad-faced and cheerful, whose women wear immense turbans rolled and rolled and twisted to inverted cones, of tribes half-naked, of tribes gorgeously robed in complicated fashions, of the A Kha from Yünnan, a people whose jingling, bold-eyed women induce some fanciful Frenchmen to call them the gypsies of Indo-China. And then there are the Kha Khmu, negroid, dark and squat, without doubt an ancient stock showing something of that pre-Indonesian type once spread far and wide in all Indo-China. And each group lives isolated from its neighbours by language, customs and tradition, and even by style of architecture. One would hardly think that such variety could be displayed in setting up a bamboo hut. . .

There is a relatively small area known as the Haut-Mékong wedged in between Luang-Prabang, China, Burma and Siam, but the Haut-Mékong is no part of the Realm of Ten

Thousand Elephants and is directly administered by the French, who gained their footing here during the negotiations, quarrels and manoeuvring between France and Britain in the eighties and ' nineties of the last century. [103] The capital of the Haut-Mékong, Ban-Houei-Sai, on the left bank of the Mekong, is full of immigrant Burmans."

28: Crawfurd--215-216 G-3 (1821) 1830 Laotians - 1-2
116, 162, 361, 631

"The country of the Lao, a people speaking a dialect of the Siamese language, appears to be divided between the Siamese, the Chinese, and the Burmans. It is composed of petty states, tributary to those three powers. Four of these are under the dominion of Siam; namely, Changmai, Lan-chang, Pasak, and Luang-phra-bang. Their chiefs are hereditary princes. The first of those named places, has sometimes been written Zimai and Jang-mai, and is evidently the district which the authors of the Modern Universal His- [216] tory have converted into a kingdom, under the name of Jangoma. The town is situated upon the Menam, where it is so shallow as only to be navigable for small canoes. The distance from Bangkok to it was described to me as a month's journey, chiefly by water. Lan-chang, always considered the capital of Lao, is situated in about 15° 45' North latitude, on the great river of Kamboja, which is here as broad and as large as the Menam at Bangkok. It was described to me as being as populous as this last place; of which I have great doubt, because it has comparatively little foreign trade, is not much resorted to by Chinese, and is not the seat of a court. Among its inhabitants are said to be about eight thousand Chinese of the neighbouring province of Yunan, commonly known to the Siamese by the names of Ho and Nung-seh. Besides the four towns, with their provinces, above stated, a fifth considerable place was mentioned to me by a native of the country, under the name of Siang-kwang, situated about fifteen days' journey to the north-east of Lang-chang. An alphabet, and other specimens

of the language of the inhabitants of this portion of Lao, was shown to me at Bangkok. It appeared to be rude, and did not, as usual, follow the classification of the Nagri. The Siamese reckon, in all their portion of Lao, one hundred and one towns, large and small."

35; Ennis--1[3] H-3 (no date) 1936 Laotians
116, 131, 162

"Laos has 321,200 square kilometers, containing 420 French and 832,000 natives. It is the largest country of the group but contains the smallest number of people, as well as the most backward, on account of the lack of communication with the outside world."

68: Mouhot--85-86 N-5 (1858-61) 1864 Laotians
Siam
116, 131, 728, 631, 162, 177.63
636.63

"A great number of the inhabitants of this province [HD: i.e. Saraburi, in Siam] are natives of Laos, and are principally captives brought from Vien Chang after the insurrection there. The provinces of Boatioume and Petchaboune are peopled by Siamese, for Laos proper only commences at M'Lôm. Boatioume, Petchaboune, Sôm, and some other provinces in the north and east, are governed by Siamese mandarins of rank more or less elevated; that is to say, several of them have the power of life and death, and are [86]then considered as viceroys. The most distant provinces belong to the empire of Siam, and form a part of it."

68: Mouhot--90-91 N-5 (1858-61) 1864 Laotians-1-2
116, 162, 164, 342, 361

"At Khao-Khoc, [HD: north of Saraburi in Siam]although the second king often visits it, there is no landing-place, nor even steps cut in the steep banks to aid the ascent.

Immediately after landing I set off to look for a lodging, having been informed that I should find numerous vacant houses belonging to mandarins, amongst which I might make my choice. My men and I hunted amid the brushwood, often sinking up to our knees in mud, but could discover only seven or eight Laotian huts, the inhabitants of which form the nucleus of the population of this future stronghold, now peaceful and hospitable agriculturists, who would be deeply afflicted, and still more terrified, if ever their echoes should repeat the roar of cannon and varied sounds of war. As for the royal habitations, I could not reach them, for the whole ground, excepting a strip about fifty feet broad next the river, is a swamp; and the narrow paths are obstructed by bushes and tall grass, which had had time to grow during the six or eight months that have elapsed since the King has visited the place.

Not being able to find a lodging, some men from the village joined us, and we all set to work to cut down bamboos, with which to construct one, which was soon accomplished; and in this hut, open to every wind, we took up our abode.

I was told that a white elephant had just been taken in Laos, and had been sent off to Bangkok under the care of a mandarin. [91]

All the inhabitants of the village, amounting perhaps to about fifty, have brought their children to me, begging for remedies; some for fevers, others for dysentery or

68: Mouhot--90-91 N-5 (1858-61) 1864 Laotians-2
116, 162, 164, 342, 361

rheumatism. I have not heard of any cases of leprosy here, as at Khao-Tchioulaü, but the children are repulsively dirty; they are covered with a coating of filth, which makes them resemble little negroes, and the greater number of them are shaking with fever."

68: Mouhot--113 N-5 (1858-61) 1864 Laotians
116, 579, 162, 631, 177.63 Siam
636.63

"These precautions are very necessary, for Korat is a nest of robbers and assassins, the resort of all the scum of the Laotian and Siamese races. Bandits and vagrants, escaped from slavery or from prison, gather here like the vultures and wolves which follow armies and caravans. It is not that they enjoy complete immunity, for the [HD: Siamese] governor, son of Bodine, the general who conquered Battambong and the revolted provinces, is viceroy of the state, has absolute power of life and death, and is, they say, very severe, cutting off a head or a hand with little compunction. But still it is Siamese justice, 'non inviola:' there are neither gendarmes nor police; the person robbed must himself arrest the offender and bring him before the judge. Even his neighbour will give no assistance in the capture."

68: Mouhot--137 N-5 (1858-61) 1864 Laotians
116, 361, 162

"On the 25th of July [HD: 1861] I reached Louang Prabang, a delightful little town, covering a square mile of ground, and containing a population, not, as Mgr. Pallegoix says in his work on Siam, of 80,000, but of 7000 or 8000 only. The situation is very pleasant. The mountains which, above and below this town, enclose the Mekon, form here a kind of circular valley or amphitheatre, nine miles in diameter, and which, there can be no doubt, was anciently a lake. It was a charming picture, reminding one of the beautiful lakes of Como and Geneva. Were it not for the constant blaze of a tropical sun, or if the mid-day heat were tempered by a gentle breeze, the place would be a little paradise.

The town is built on both banks of the stream, though the greater number of the houses are built on the left bank. The most considerable part of the town surrounds an isolated mount, more than a hundred metres in height, at the top of which is a pagoda."

68: Mouhot--140 N-5 (1858-61) 1864 Laotians
116, 162, 437

"The Chinese and Indians alone traffic here; [HD: i.e. in the area between Loeui and Kenne Thao south of Pak Lai] it requires a day's journey to conclude the smallest bargain, and a whole village is assembled to make sure that the money is not spurious. On my route here I have not met a single Siamese, but in every village have seen Birmans, Kariens, and people from Western Laos. I have found men in Lao-Pouene moulded like athletes and of herculean strength, and thought that the King of Siam might raise in this province a fine regiment of grenadiers. In all the villages I have visited, the inhabitants, including even the priests, set to work to collect insects for me, glad to receive in return a few copper buttons, glass beads, or a little red cloth."

68: Mouhot--275-276 N-5 (1858-61) 1864 Laotians
116, 162, 579

"Korat Ongcor Aithe of the Cambodians was formerly the bulwark of Cambodia on the north and west: a solid rampart supported by a large épaulement, the work of Khmer Dôme (the ancient Cambodians), still surrounds the town. It is at present governed by a Siamese mandarin of the first class, a kind of viceroy, but the ancient inhabitants have nearly disappeared, and it contains only about 300 Chinese or their descendants, small resident merchants, 300 other individuals who go about the country trading, and 1500 or 2000 Laotians, Cambodians, and Siamese, who, like wolves or jackals which follow an army or caravan, have come there from all parts of the kingdom, or have remained there after the wars of Laos and Cambodia, in [276] order to lead a life in harmony with their inclinations, attacking travellers and Chinese merchants, in fact a band of miscreants, with few exceptions destitute of all good qualities."

China Geographical Service /Service géographique de l'Indochine/ and the road surveys made by administrators at the heads of provinces nevertheless agree substantially in estimating the area of Laos at approximately 250,000 square kilometers, or about half that of France. 131 654

Population. This is the largest of the five countries in French Indo-China, and it is also the least densely populated. According to information collected on the spot, the population must be between a million and 1,200,000 inhabitants, a figure appreciably larger than the one figuring in the official documents, which estimate it to be only 800,000. Persons of the Laotian race in the strict /3/ sense form the majority. They populate the plains which are watered by the Mékong and its tributaries and the low altitude plateaus. The mountains are inhabited by highly diverse races belonging to various ethnic types, some of which are related to the Chinese, and others to the Tibetan branch, while still others are grouped under the generic name of "Khas." These various groups are scattered over the western side of the Annamitic Chain, the foothills of the plateau of Trân-Ninh and in the upper valley of the Mékong. 161 /162/ 162

The extremely low population density is to be explained by the Siamese and Chinese invasions in the course of the nineteenth century. The "Hos," plunderers who came from Yunnan, massacred the inhabitants after they had burned their villages and forced those who escaped famine or torture to settle in another region. The Siamese proceeded in a more methodical manner and depopulated the country by transporting inhabitants, livestock and elephants to the right bank of the Mekong and oftentimes taking them as far as the valley of the Ménam. 162 166 648* 175

Upper Laos. Upper Laos, a ramification of the Tibetan plateau, "is an inextricable tangle /4/ of wild and wooded mountains in the midst of which paths wind like gigantic Russian mountains" (1). The country has a savage look. These high 133 133 137

1. Dr. Lefèvre, "Le Haut-Laos" (Bulletin de la Société de Géographie commerciale, 1898).

mountain chains, which are cut here and there by deep valleys where torrents which are often invisible flow, are covered with

I in northern Indo-China, whose inhabitants were obliged to have re-
L course to /13/ China in order to obtain iron farming implements.
172 According to the discoveries of Indo-Chinese geologists and the learned studies of Dr. Verneau (1), these primitive populations

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1. Cf. R. Verneau, Les récentes découvertes préhistoriques de l'Indochine (comptes rendus de l'Académie des Sciences, 1924). -- H. Mansuy, Contribution à l'étude de la préhistoire de l'Indochine, 1923-1925. -- E. Patte, Notes sur le préhistorique indochinois, 1925.

presented the same characteristics as may still be found "in the islands of Malaysia, from Sumatra to the center of Borneo, among the tribes which constitute the Indonesian group." Today they are known as Kha in Laotian lands, as Moï in Annam and as Pnong in Cambodia. Among these Khas, "There are unquestionably various types. In some of them we recognize without any difficulty the influence of Mongol blood which has modified the characteristics of the primitive race in varying degrees. But if we eliminate these half-breeds who are more or less impregnated with yellow blood, we are left with dolichocephalic, hypsicephalic individuals with pentagonal heads... who closely resemble the old race which once lived on the frontiers of China. It is therefore becoming increasingly probable that the Indonesians and the Khas are both descended from a stock which used to live /14/ in the north of the Indo-Chinese peninsula"(1).

1. R. Verneau, Les crânes humains du gisement préhistorique de Pho-Binh-Gia. -- L'Anthropologie, pp. 558-559. Quoted by H. Mansuy in the Mémoires du Service géologique de l'Indochine. Vol. XII, fascicule II, 1925, vi, p. 9.

I From the state of his knowledge on the Indo-Chinese Neolithic
L period in 1925, H. Mansuy has concluded: "These Indonesians
174 form a group of remarkable homogeneity whenever they are not impregnated with the blood of the genuinely Mongoloid races in the midst of which they are disseminated... Through their cranial morphology and their short faces, they are linked to the disharmonic dolichocephalics of the end of the Pleistocene and to the Cro-Magnon type... The real similarity between the men of the last phase of the Pleistocene in Europe and the Indonesian group which

It is generally admitted that towards the beginning of our era the geographical distribution of the /22/ /C. A. M. Translator's note. Page 22 is entirely devoted to a map: "The Indo-Chinese Peninsula in the Thirteenth and Fourteenth Centuries."/ /23/ various populations which inhabited Indo-China was approximately as follows: I L 162 174

The Chams inhabited southern Annam;

The Kmers occupied not only the present-day Cambodian region, but probably also present-day Cochinchina and the greater part of Laos;

The Burmese, in conjunction with their Tibetan congeners, were doubtless already established along the Upper Irrawaddy, and the Pégouans (Mon or Talain, related to the Kmers) in the lower valley of this river;

The Thaïs, who came from central Asia and were divided into six native principalities or "tchao," occupied Yunnan;

Finally, the Annamites occupied the north of Annam and Tonkin, which were organized as a Chinese province (1).

1. Cf. R. Grousset, Histoire de l'Extrême-Orient, pp. 285, 287, 548 and 549. "The study of phonetics has led H. Maspero to find that Annamite is related to the Thaï family." (Ibid., p. 599.) /197/

149; Reinach--94 G-3 (no date) 1901 AM1 Indochina
Laotians AM8

At the present time labor is what is needed to place under cultivation the land which is still lying fallow. Indeed, scarcely 30,000 square kilometers are cultivated out of the 80,000 which could be used. Once placed under cultivation these 50,000 square kilometers (1) could support from [126] 500,000 to 600,000 new inhabitants,

(1) About 15,000 square kilometers in northern Laos and 35,000 in southern Laos.

at the rate of ten or twelve inhabitants per square kilometer.

2. RACES

The population of Laos can be divided into four large distinct categories. These are:

1. The Thais, that is to say, all the people who speak, write or understand the Thai language with a few slight differences either in pronunciation, the construction of words, orthography or writing. This race is subdivided into several types or varieties which are: The Laotians (or Lao or Phou-Lao) (1).

(1) We have created the word Laotian by derivation to designate the inhabitants of Laos in general, but in reality there is one variety of the Thai family, the most numerous one moreover, which bears the name Lao or Phou-Lao. The whole of the region included in the Mékong basin above Cambodia and in the basin of the Upper Ménam is called Muong-Lao, Xieng-Lao, or land inhabited by the Phou-Lao.

The Phou-Thais.
The Khao-Thais.
The Dam-Thais.
The Deng-Thais.
The Neua-Thais.
The Phou-Eunes.
The Youns.
The Lus.

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2. The Khas (2) or descendants of the prehistoric aborigines.

(2) In Laos the word Kha means slave, individual of inferior and scornful condition, or else one who lives as a savage. The name, which was applied by the last invaders of Laos to the races which had preceded them there, has the same meaning as Moï in Annamite, Stieng or Peunong in Cambodian and Orang Oulou in Malay.

They mixed with newcomers to form a large variety of secondary tribes which, despite their common origin, differ from one another in type, language, dialect or idiom, mores, customs, dress, etc.

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The Khas have no form of writing, except for the Khouènes and the Khmous who have been partly converted to Buddhism while their [127] fellows have clung to a crude fetishism in which belief in spirits (Phis) prevails.

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A few of these tribes have not yet submitted to our domination and do not pay any taxes.

The principal Kha tribes in Laos are the following:

a) In northern Laos. (The names below should be followed by the word Khas.)

1. PURE KHAS

Khouènes-Khao.	Koussoungs.	Bos.	Kouangs.
Khouènes-Dam.	Bits.	Sapouans.	Saks.
Lemets.	Phèng-Mis.	Kasèngs.	Mouœus.
Leups.	Sos.	Tiols.	Khmous.
Lawas.	Siengs-Di.	Alous.	
Khos.	Giois.	Ouxas.	
Khouis.	Hock-Roï.	Panas.	

2. KHAS MIXED WITH LAOTIANS, THAIS, LUS AND YOUNS OR IN THE COURSE OF CHANGE

Oks.	Sos.	Phongs.	Phou-Thuongs.
Youngs.	Soués.	Laos-Niôs.	Phou-Oks.
Phou-Phays.	Sèks.	Phou-Thengs.	

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3. KHAS MIXED WITH HÔS, MÉOS AND YAOS

Khas-Hôs.	Lolos.
Ounis.	Sidas.
Hô-Kias.	

b) In southern Laos.

1. PURE KHAS

Djarais.	Mane.	Katongs.	Cédangs.
Nia-Heuns.	Halang-Doang.	Katangs.	Radès.
Alaks.	Salèngs.	Niès.	Habans.
Tiem Poueûns.	Peunongs.	Phou-Khaos.	Goclars.
Lovès.	Tha-Hôls.	Khon-Tou.	Bahnars.
Braos.	Vêns.	Banams.	Rognaos.
Souks.	Sos.	Bos.	Sèks.
Sèngs.	Hin.		

[128] 2. KHAS WHO ARE LAOTIAN-IZED OR IN COURSE OF CHANGE

Bolovens.	Pou-Bathièngs.	Lovès-Lao.	Phou-Oks.
Ongs.	Toueis.	Souk-Khok.	Phou-Phays.
Pou-Thongs.	Laos-Nîcs.	Souk-Nîa.	Phou-Thuongs.

3. The Mongols who have immigrated from Yunnan.

TRIBES OF MONGOL ORIGIN FROM NEIGHBORING LANDS

Hôs.	Méos-Dam.	Yaos-Lantènes (black)
Méos-Khao.	Méos-Dèng.	Yaos-Khao (horned)
		Yaos-Ao-Tchaine (with sapeks)

4. The foreign Asiatics.

Annamites.	Burmese.	Kînes.
Cambodians.	Yunnanese.	Tsongs-Sous.
Siamese.	Ngieous or Nuons.	Malays.
Chinese.		

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PROVINCE OF CAMMON

Area: 30,000 square kilometers.

Population: 8 Europeans including 1 merchant, 30,000 natives.

Population density per 100 square kilometers: 100.

Administrative Divisions

Muongs	Number of villages		Registered persons	
	Laotians	Pacified Khas	Laotians	Pacified Khas
Tha-Khek	113		1,480	
Pak-Hin-Boun	94		1,271	
Mahasay	200		1,262	
Kham-Keut	63		665	
Cammon	48		702	

Pak-Hin-Boun (capital)

Distance from Vien-Tiane: 348 kilometers.

Population: 4 Europeans, 250 natives.

Posts occupied by the Native Guard:

Pak-Hin-Boun.....1 chief guardsman.
Nape.....1 inspector.

Postal and Telegraph service:

Pak-Hin-Boun..... Secondary office.

Religion:

1 seminary at Don-Done
1 director.
2 missionaries.

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149: Reinach--210 G-8 (no date) 1901 AM1 Indochina
Laotians AM8

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[294] PROVINCE OF SONG-KHONE

Area: 21,000 square kilometers.

Population: 16 Europeans, 45,000 natives.

Population density per 100 square kilometers: 214.

Administrative Divisions

Muongs	Number of villages		Registered persons	
	Laotians	Pacified Khas	Laotians	Pacified Khas
Khantabuli (Kongs--Savannakhet and Sapang-Tong	130		2,914	
Champone(Muong--Samumane)	119		2,856	
Song-Khone (Muong-Lahanam)	88		1,345	
Phong	53		320	
Tchepone(Muong--Xieng-Hom)	16	34	404	463
Vang (Muong-Vang-Kham and Kong-Atsapone	42	16	584	111
Phabang	6	4	28	42
Phalane	18	31	300	358
Phin	4	13	112	86
Nong	1	8	20	80

149: Reinach--212 G-3 (no date) 1901 AM1 Indochina
Laotians AM8

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[295] PROVINCE OF SARAVANE

Area: 12,000 square kilometers.

Population: 3 Europeans, 30,000 natives.

Population density per 100 square kilometers: 250

Administrative Divisions

Muongs	Number of villages		Registered persons	
	Laotians	Pacified Khas	Laotians	Pacified Khas
Khamthong-Niai	63	56	1,050	770
Kong	15		483	
Saphat	13	5	250	57
Smia	5	2	135	54
Wapy	34	16	693	201
Southabali	11	18	150	160
Saravane	48	100	1,315	1,364
Khamthong-Noi	14	3	225	57
Lakhone-Peng	5		92	

Saravane (capital)

Distance from Vien-Tiane:
1. by land as far as Savannakhet by way of Muong-Kong, 728 kilometers
2. by river via Pak-Se-Done, 895 kilometers.

Population: 3 Europeans, 650 natives.

Post occupied by the Native Guard:

Saravane.....1 chief guardsman

Postal and Telegraph service:

Saravane, Kamthong-Niai.....Secondary offices.

149: Reinach--213 G-3 (no date) 1901 AM1 Indochina
Laotians AM8

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PROVINCE OF BAN- MOUANG

Area: 6, 000 square kilometers.

Population: 7 Europeans including 2 merchants, 36, 000 natives.

Population density per 100 square kilometers: 600.

Administrative Divisions

Muongs	Number of villages		Registered persons	
	Laotians	Pacified Khas	Laotians	Pacified Khas
Fiafay	43	51	1, 816	854
Pak-Sedone	47	71	1, 978	1, 114
Sa-Phai	20	5	1, 062	67
Souvannakhili	11		405	

Ban-Mouang (capital)

Distance from Vien-Tiane: 760 kilometers.

Population: 4 Europeans, 350 natives.

Post occupied by the native guard:

Ban-Mouang.....1 chief guardsman.

Postal and Telegraph service:

Ban-Mouang.....Complete office.

Cochinchina River Merchant Fleet:

Agency at Don-Kho with 1 European agent.

149: Reinach--214 G-3 (no date) 1901 AM1 Indochina
Laotians AM8

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PROVINCE OF ATTOPEU

Area: 18,000 square kilometers.

Population: 11 Europeans, 64,600 natives.

Population density per 100 square kilometers: 360.

Administrative Divisions

Muong	Number of villages		Registered persons	
	Laotians	Pacified Khas	Laotians	Pacified Khas
Attopeu	28	59	1,300	1,956

Attopeu (capital)

Distance from Vien-Tiane by way of Fiafay: 927 kilometers.

Population:

3 Europeans, 900 natives.

Post occupied by the Native Guard:

Attopeu.....1 chief guardsman.

Postal and Telegraph service:

Attopeu.....secondary office.

Religion:

Catholic mission of the Bahnars.

1 provical superior, 7 missionaries, 7 Christian communities.

Kon-Toum, Kon-Money, Kon-Ketou, Kon-Xabang, Kon-Ngo, Kon-Trang, Ro-Hay.

149: Reinach---215 G-3 (no date) 1901 AM1 Indochina
Laotians AM8

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[298]

PROVINCE OF KHONG

Area: 3,000 square kilometers.

Population: 14 Europeans, 26,800 natives.

Population density per 100 square kilometers: 900 (?)

Administrative Divisions

Muongs	Number of villages		Registered persons	
	Laotians	Pacified Khas	Laotians	Pacified Khas
Khong	76	13	4,323	147
Siempang	19	24	540	392

Khong (capital)

Distance from Vien-Tiane: 862 kilometers.

Population: 7 Europeans, 600 natives.

Administrative post at Khone: 1 delegate of the commissioner.

Posts occupied by the Native Guard:

Khong
Khone } 1 chief guardsman.

Postal and Telegraph service:

Khong.....Complete office.
Khone.....Secondary office.

Health service: 1 infirmary at Khong with 1 colonial physician.

Laotian Fleet: Launch "Haiphong" with 1 European engineer.

Cochinchina River Merchant Fleet: Agency at Khone with 3 European agents.

Steam launch: "Garcerie" at Ban Dong with 3 Europeans.

149: Reinach--216 G-3 (no date) 1901 AM1 Indochina
Laotians AM8

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[299] PROVINCE OF STUNG-TRENG

Area: 20,000 square kilometers.

Population: 9 Europeans including 2 merchants, 60,000 natives.

Population density per 100 square kilometers: 300.

Administrative Divisions

Muongs	Number of villages		Registered persons	
	Laotians	Pacified Khas	Laotians	Pacified Khas
Stung-Treng	61	114	1,441	3,201

Stung-Treng (capital)

Distance from Vien-Tiane: 942 kilometers.

Population: 9 Europeans, 1,500 natives.

Posts occupied by the Native Guard:

Stung-Treng
Ban-Phi } 1 chief guardsman.

Postal and Telegraph service:

Stung-Treng.....Complete office.

Laotian Fleet: Launch "Argus".

Cochinchina River Merchant Fleet:

Agency at Stung-Treng with 1 European agent.

Launches: "Cygne", "Mouette".

149: Reinach--217 G-3 (no date) 1901 AM1 Indochina
Laotians AM8

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PROVINCE OF DARLAC

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Area: 10,500 square kilometers.

Population: 4 Europeans, 25,200 natives.

Population density per 100 square kilometers: 250 (?).

Administrative Divisions

Muongs	Number of villages		Registered persons	
	Laotians	Pacified Khas	Laotians	Pacified Khas
Darlac	1	98	60	6,000

Darlac (capital).

Distance from Vien-Tiane by way of Stung-Treng: 1,282 (?) kilometers.

Population: 3 Europeans, (?) natives.

Posts occupied by the Native Guard:

Ban-Don.....1 chief guardsman.

Darlac.....1 chief guardsman.

Postal and Telegraph service:

None.